

MISSION: To achieve a coordinated early childhood professional development system

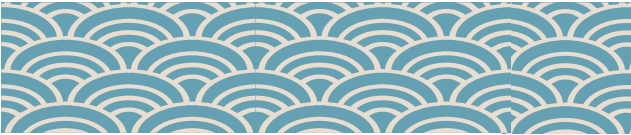
GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- The care and education of young children are inseparable.
- High quality child care is necessary to humanity’s social and economic survival and well-being.
- High quality child care relies on a stable workforce of well-qualified early childhood and school-age professionals.
- Professionals must be rewarded with increased compensation as their education, experience, and demonstrated competence increase, working in the same or changing roles.
- There are a variety of early childhood and school-age professional roles that require different types and levels of knowledge and skills, but share a common core centered in early childhood and school-age education.
- Professionals in the same roles, with similar education, experience and competence should receive equitable compensation, regardless of the system or setting in which they work.
- Professional development opportunities should be available, accessible, affordable, and provided by competent, well-qualified adult educators.
- Professional development opportunities should articulate from one training/education setting or institution to another.
- Professional development opportunities should be systematic and adhere to principles of adult education; in particular, they must allow for interaction between teachers and learners.
- Public commitment is necessary to adequately finance an early childhood and school-age professional development system.
- Adult learners must be actively involved in the design of their professional development experiences.
- Professional development is a lifelong endeavor.

PDI IN WISCONSIN MOTTO:
On the crest of a wave~

- ~Awash with enthusiasm.
- ~Smoothing the rough edges by tumbling ideas against hard facts, immersing and resurfacing the issues at all levels.
- ~Reshaping the outcome.
- ~Land, lake...and light.

Wisconsin is a state with fertile soil, natural water boundaries and clean air, which inspired the PDI motto for the creativity, collaboration and clarity motivating and shaping the character of this initiative.



To learn more about professional development in Wisconsin, visit these websites:

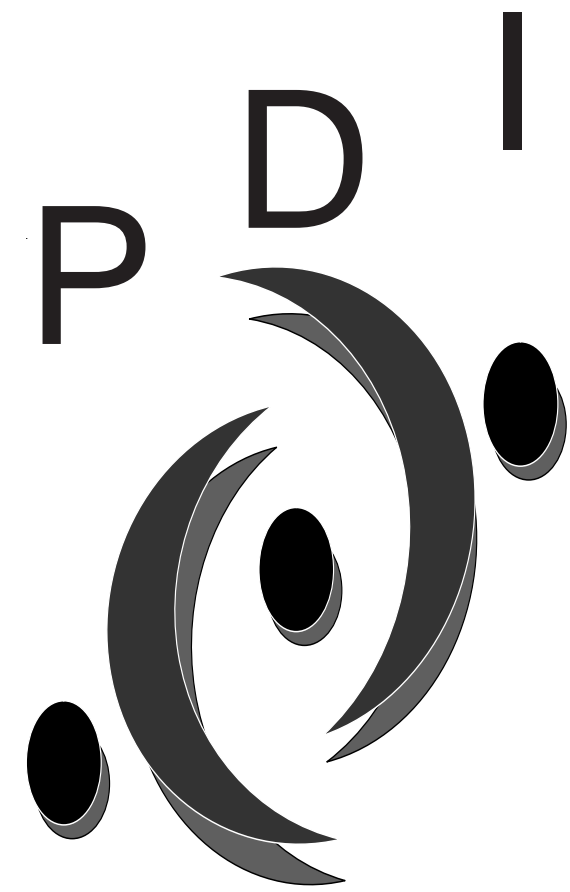
www.t-net.org
-- web home of PDI and the Wisconsin Training Network--
Listing of courses and events for all who work with children in Wisconsin

www.dpi.state.wi.us/ccic/pdf/issue33.pdf
--A look at the beginning stages of PDI --

www.collaboratingpartners.com/ProfDev.htm
~Collaborating Partners, statewide partnership of parents, early childhood staff & administrators, links~

www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlcl/bbfcsp/ecprodev.html
--The Department of Public Instruction’s Bright Beginnings page on professional development--

www.waisman.wisc.edu/birthto3/PRODEV.HTML
-- WI Personnel Development Project (WPDP), UW-Madison Waisman Center’s program for staff working with children with special needs



**Early Childhood
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE
IN WISCONSIN**

GOALS:

1. To cultivate an empowered early childhood workforce who identify themselves as members of a profession and are committed to professional development.
2. To achieve professional compensation and reduce the high turnover in the field.
3. To develop a uniform, statewide recognition system which documents levels of education and experience and is used by all professionals.
4. To offer training and development of opportunities which are both accessible and affordable for entry-level through experienced early childhood and school-age personnel.
5. To create a continuum of training and education with full articulation which recognizes a core knowledge base.
6. To improve the quality of training and education, and to insure that it follows the principles of effective adult education and is culturally sensitive.
7. To inform parents and the public about the level of education and compensation child care professionals need in order to provide high quality care.
8. To inform prospective and practicing professionals about training resources and opportunities.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

Compensation

Education and Training

Advocacy, Marketing, and
Public Awareness

History

Founded in 1995, the Early Childhood Professional Development Initiative in Wisconsin (PDI) began as a project sponsored by the Wheelock College Center for Career Development and led by the Registry. A series of statewide roundtables including representatives from diverse careers in the early childhood arena defined the strengths and weaknesses of the child care profession in Wisconsin and set the goals and direction of the initiative.

Past Chairs:
Jere Wallden/ Kay Hendon, Eleanor Dockry,
Debi Schwid/ Luanne Platt/ Linda Leonhart

Membership

PDI has no membership dues. Membership is open to all early childhood professionals.

To learn about meeting locations and dates, visit the calendar on the T-Net website, www.t-net.org, or phone the Wisconsin Child Care Information Center, 1-800-362-7353.

Leadership

Co-Chairs 2005:
Jill Haglund, DPI
Linda Leonhart, Head Start Collaboration
Jane Robinson, Registry
Linda Tuchman, Waisman Center

Steering Committee 2005:

Diane Adams	Ron Jetty
Therese Ahlers	Carol Maurer
Anne Carmody	Kath McGurk
Sharon Fleischfesser	Jeanette Paulson
Bonnie Geyer	Theresa Pellet
Tina Ginner	Mary Peters
Lita Haddal	Barb Schuler
Ann Hains	Kathy Strazishar
Susan Harvey	Francine Tompkins
Julia Herwig	Melinda Velesquez

Vision

Lake Superior beach glass is the symbol for PDI. Lake Superior has been the depository for much broken glass that gets tumbled repeatedly against the rocky lake shore until the glass becomes smooth-edged. Although the pieces do not fit tightly together, they can be held easily in a closed fist.

The vision of PDI is that, like Lake Superior beach glass, the many pieces and parts to professional development in the child care and early education field can remain colorful in their own right while fitting together in a solid partnership.